

and the Cods of an indifferent size; but in others, as C, I found them begin to have little short stalks, or stems; in others, as D, those stems were grown bigger, and larger; and in others, as at E, F, H, I, K, L, &c. those stems and Cods were grown a great deal bigger, and the stalks were more bulky about the root, and very much taper'd towards the top, as at F and L is most visible.

I did not find that any of them had any seed in them, or that any of them were hollow, but as they grew bigger and bigger, I found those heads or Cods begin to turn their tops towards their roots, in the same manner as I had observ'd that of Moss to do; so that in all likelihood, Nature did intend in that posture, what she does in the like seed-cods of greater bulk, that is, that the seed, when ripe, should be shaken out and dispersed at the end of it, as we find in Columbine Cods, and the like.

The whole Oval OOOO in the second Figure of the 12. Scheme represents a small part of a Rose leaf, about the bigness of the little Oval in the hillock, C, marked with the Figure X. in which I have not particularly observ'd all the other forms of the surface of the Rose-leaf, as being little to my present purpose.

Now, if these Codshave a seed in them so proportion'd to the Cod, as those of *Pinks*, and *Carnations*, and *Columbines*, and the like, how unimaginably small must each of those seeds necessarily be, for the whole length of one of the largest of those Cods was not $\frac{1}{100}$ part of an Inch; some not above $\frac{1}{1000}$, and therefore certainly, very many thousand of them would be unable to make a bulk that should be visible to the naked eye; and if each of these contain the Rudiments of a young Plant of the same kind, what must we say of the pores and constituent parts of that?

The generation of this Plant seems in part, ascribable to a kind of *Mildew* or *Blight*, whereby the parts of the leaves grow scabby, or putrify'd, as it were, so as that the moisture breaks out in little scabs or spots, which, as I said before, look like little knobs of a red gummous substance.

From this putrify'd scabb breaks out this little Vegetable; which may be somewhat like a *Mould* or *Moss*; and may have its equivocal generation much after the same manner as I have supposed *Moss* or *Mould* to have, and to be a more simple and uncompounded kind of vegetation, which is set a moving by the *putractive* and *fermentative* heat, joyn'd with that of the ambient aerial, when (by the putrification and decay of some other parts of the vegetable, that for a while staid its progress) it is unfetter'd and left at liberty to move in its former course, but by reason of its *regulators*, moves and acts after quite another manner than it did when a *coagent* in the more compounded *machine* of the more perfect Vegetable.

And from this very same Principle, I imagine the *Mistletoe* of Oaks, Thorns, Appletrees, and other Trees, to have its original: It seldom or never growing on any of those Trees, till they begin to wax decrepid, and decay with age, and are pester'd with many other infirmities.

Hither also may be referr'd those multitudes and varieties of *Mushrooms*, such as that, call'd *Jews-ears*, all sorts of *gray* and *green* Mosses, &c. which

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infest all kind of Trees, shrubs, and the like, especially any bigness. And this we see to be very much the throughout its operations, *putractive Vegetables* very Vegetable of a much less compounded nature, and of a different tribe; and *putractive* animal substances degenerating into animal production of a much inferior rank, and of a more

Thus we find the humours and substances of the body, to produce strange kinds of moving Vermine: the slimes and juices of the Stomack and Guts, produce *Worms*; Earth-worms, the Wheals in childrens hands produce a *Wheal-worm*: The blood and milk, and other humours, produce kinds of Worms, at least, if we may believe what is said by very famous Authors; though, I confess, I have not yet cover such my self.

And whereas it may seem strange that *Vinegar*, *Meal*, &c. are observ'd to breed their differing kinds of Insects, whereas they being Vegetable substances, seem to be of a more simple and so unable to produce a creature more noble, or more compounded nature than they themselves are of, and so very different from the current seminal principle, may be thought utterly unfit for the generation; I must add, that we cannot presently positively say, that no animal substances, either mediately, as by the soil, or immediately, as by the Plant from whence they sprung, or more immediately, by the composition of such substances, join'd with them; or by the kind of Insect, in such places where such kind of *putractive* bodies are, may, by a certain instinct of nature, ejected from the seminal principle, which cooperating with various kinds of substances, may produce various kinds of Insects, or Animals. We find in most sorts of those lower degrees of Animated substances, *putrifying* substances on which these Eggs, Seeds, or young Animals are cast by the Insect, become, as it were, the *Matrix* or *Womb*, and conduce very much to their generation, and may perchance produce a great variation and alteration, much after the same manner, as we see in unnatural copulations, several new kinds of Animals, such as *Mules*, and the like, which are usually call'd *Monstrous*. We find also, that an unusual, though many of them have all their principal parts shap'd and adapted for their peculiar uses, as any of the *Animals*. If therefore the *putrifying* body, on which an Animal is cast, or vital principle chances to be cast, become somewhat like a nursing and fostering helper in the generation of any kind of Animated body, the more neer it approaches to the nature of a Womb, the more power will it have on the by-blow of this somewhat more in the description of the *Waters*. We might bring the Question to some certainty, which would concern in Natural Philosophy.

But that *putrifying* animal substances may produce ani